

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANT:	EQUITABLE RESOURCES)	DIVISION OF
	EXPLORATION)	GAS AND OIL
)	DOCKET NO.
RELIEF SOUGHT:	EXCEPTION TO)	VGOB-92/08/18-0250
	STATEWIDE SPACING)	
)	
LEGAL DESCRIPTION:)	
)	
	WELL NUMBER VP-2447)	
	PVRC TRACT NO. TK-87)	
	APPALACHIA QUADRANGLE)	
	RICHMOND MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT)	
	WISE COUNTY, VIRGINIA)	

REPORT OF THE BOARD

FINDINGS AND ORDER

1. Hearing Date and Place: This cause came on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (hereinafter "Board") at 9:00 a.m. on August 8, 1992, at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Center, Abingdon, Virginia.

2. Appearances: Richard A. Counts, Attorney, appeared for the Applicant, and Sandra B. Riggs, Assistant Attorney General, was present to advise the Board.

3. Notice and Jurisdiction: The Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the subject matter. The Board also finds that the applicant has exercised due diligence to locate and provide notice to all persons/companies entitled to notice of this proceeding.

4. Relief Requested: Applicant requests an exception to statewide spacing requirements set forth in Section 45.1-361.17 of the Code of Virginia for Well Number VP-2447. The Applicant requests the Board's consent to drill Well Number VP-2447 closer than 2640 feet to Well Number V-133642.

5. Amendment: None.

6. Reasons Relief Should be Granted: Evidence presented on behalf of the Applicant shows, and the Board finds, that based on the deposition of the common sources of supply anticipated between surface and total depth projected to be drilled, the proposed location exception represents the optimum location to recover commercially productive hydrocarbons underlying the drilling and spacing unit.

A qualified landsman testified that the location exception was necessary due to environmental constraints, accommodation of other mineral interests and effective land management practices.

A qualified petroleum geologist testified that the granting of the location exception was in the best interest of preventing waste, protecting correlative rights and maximizing recovery of hydrocarbons underlying the drilling and spacing unit.

A qualified mine engineer testified that an exception to statewide spacing was necessary to allow this well to be drilled at its proposed location to ensure maximum recovery of natural gas reserves due to current and future coal mining activity surrounding the well.

7. Relief Granted: The requested relief in this cause be and hereby is granted allowing the applicant to permit and drill Well Number VP-2447 within 2568.53 feet of Well Number V-133642 as depicted on Exhibit A hereto.

8. Findings: That the well location exception, in accordance with the foregoing, is necessary to prevent waste, protect correlative rights and to generally effect the purposes of the Virginia Gas and Oil Act.

9. Effective Date: This Order shall be effective on the date of its execution.

10. Done and executed this 9th day of Sept., 1992, by a majority of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board.

11. Done and performed this 9th day of Sept., 1992, by Order of this Board.

VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

Benny R. Wampler
Benny R. Wampler, Chairman

DONE AND PERFORMED
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD:

Byron J. Fulmer
Byron Thomas Fulmer
Principal Executive To The Staff
Virginia Gas and Oil Board

STATE OF VIRGINIA)
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

Acknowledged on this 9th day of September, 1992, personally before me a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared Benny Wampler, being duly sworn did depose and say that he is Chairman of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do so.

Susan G. Garrett
Susan G. Garrett
Notary Public
My commission expires 7/31/94

STATE OF VIRGINIA)
COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)

Acknowledged on this 9th day of September, 1992, personally before me a notary public in and for the Commonwealth of Virginia, appeared Benny Wampler, being duly sworn did depose and say that he is Chairman of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he executed the same and was authorized to do so.

Diane J. Davis
Diane Davis
Notary Public
My commission expires 9/23/92

